tonnes and was 2.23 lakh tonnes in 1991-92 (April to December). No problem is envisaged in ensuring for requisite level of export.

**Commissioning of New All India Radio Stations in A.P.**

804. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to commission new All India Radio Stations in Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) A local Radio Station with 2x3 KW FM Transmitter and Multi-purpcse Studios at Mercapuram is envisaged to be technically ready by September, 1992. The Station will be commissioned once the minimum essential staff required for its operation and maintenace is in position.

**Impact of MTV on Doordarshan**

805. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTV is all set to rock Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and whether any study has been made out by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) No. Sir. There is no discernible evidence to this effect. A survey conducted by Doordarshan indicated that the viewing of MTV is limited to a small section of urban youth.

**Negotiations for Asiasat Transponder**

806. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are negotiating for a transponder on the Star TV satellite (Asiasat);

(b) if so, whether the Department of Space has given its concurrence to this proposals; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS). (a) to (c) While there is a proposal for a visit by a delegation from the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to discuss with M/s. Asia Satellite Telecommunications Co. Ltd. the possibility of hiring of a transponder on Asiasat, no formal negotiations are being carried on at present.

**Telecast of News in Urdu, Sanskrit and Regional Languages**

807. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to telecast news in Urdu on Doordarshan;

(b) whether Government have evolved a national policy on the telecast of news in regional languages on Doordarshan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to telecast news in Sanskrit on Doordarshan, if so, by when the telecast is scheduled to be started; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) A five minute Urdu news bulletin has been started recently from Doordarshan Kendras Delhi (metro channel), Lucknow, Patna and Hyderabad.